



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Nobuaki NAKAGAWA *et al.*

Appln. No.: 09/051,670

Filing Date: September 8, 1998

For: Novel DNAs and Process for Producing
Proteins By Using the Same

Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: David S. Romeo

Confirmation No.: 8271

Atty. Docket: 16991.009

**Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by
the Examiner Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.103 and MPEP § 709**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

According to a communication mailed April 20, 2004, the above-referenced application was suspended for six months to await the availability of a potential reference. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner in charge of this case provide a status update to the undersigned as soon as possible by calling 202-942-5186.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Marsh (Reg. Attorney No. 40,408)
Rachel L. Adams (Reg. Attorney No. 54,660)
Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. Agent No. 53,183)

Date: October 21, 2004

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October 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/051,670
Filing Date: September 8, 1998
Title: Novel DNAs and Process for Producing Proteins by Using
the Same
Applicants: Nobuaki NAKAGAWA *et al.*
Atty. Docket: 16991.009

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office:

1. an Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by the Examiner Pursuant to
37 C.F.R. § 1.103 and MPEP § 709; and
2. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to
our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to
prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby
petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However,
if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then
the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit
Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16991.009. A duplicate copy of this letter is
enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kristan L. Lansbery".

David R. Marsh (Reg. Atty. No. 41,408)
Rachel L. Adams (Reg. Atty. No. 54,660)
Kristan L. Lansbery (Reg. Agent No. 53,183)

Enclosures